

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Akihiro GOTO , et al.

Appln. No. Not Yet Assigned

Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

Confirmation No.:Not Yet Assigned

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: September 24, 2001

For: ELECTRIC POWER UNIT FOR ELECTRIC DISCHARGE SURFACE TREATMENT  
AND METHOD OF ELECTRIC DISCHARGE SURFACE TREATMENT

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date for an application other than a continued prosecution application (CPA) under §1.53(d); (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

#3  
7.6.  
11-14-01

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Attorney Docket No. Q65416

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a corresponding Communication from a Foreign Patent Office citing such documents, together with an English-language version (if not already included) of that portion of the Communication from a Foreign Patent Office indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign office.

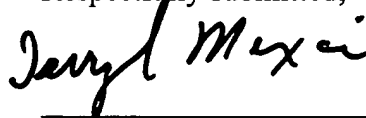
In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant submits the following explanations:

**Japanese Patent Unexamined Publication No. Hei. 9-192937 discloses a surface treating method in which a surface treatment is conducted by using an electrode molded with powders containing hydride.**

**Japanese Patent Unexamined Publication No. Hei. 10-130318 discloses a method of manufacturing a discharge surface treatment electrode product is sintered at 600 to 1000 °c.**

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,



Darryl Mexic  
Registration No. 23,063

SUGHRUE, MION, ZINN,  
MACPEAK & SEAS, PLLC  
2100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20037-3213  
Telephone: (202) 293-7060  
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860  
DM/plr  
Date: September 24, 2001